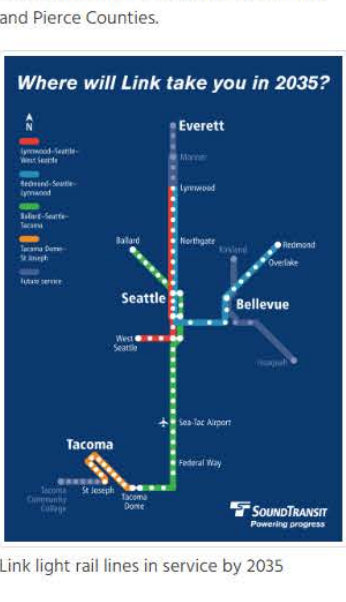
Tacoma Dome Link Extension

Welcome

Extending light rail from Federal Way to Tacoma in 2030

Regional light rail is coming to South King and Pierce Counties.



Where will Link take you in 2035?
Everett
Lynnwood
Ballard
Northgate
Redmond
Overlake
Seattle
Bellevue
West Seattle
Sea-Tac Airport
Federal Way
Tacoma
St Joseph
Tacoma Dome
SOUNDTRANSIT Powering progress

Link light rail lines in service by 2035

We're planning potential routes and stations for the Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE), connecting Federal Way, Fife and Tacoma to the regional light rail network. As part of the 2016 voter-approved System Expansion, this project will add approximately 10 additional miles of track and four new light rail stations by 2030.

Earlier in 2019, the Sound Transit Board of Directors established a preferred route and station alternative, as well as additional routes and station alternatives, for study during the environmental review process.

Below you'll find an update on our work since spring 2019, including design options for parking and bus access at stations and interactions with surface streets. Now's your chance to ask questions and learn about our next steps.

We're refining our route and station alternatives -

We need your feedback in the process ahead

- Sound Transit collected public input last spring on possible route and station alternatives in South Federal Way, Fife, East Tacoma and Tacoma Dome. The Sound Transit Board then selected a preferred alternative and other alternatives to study in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a process that gauges impacts to the natural and built environment for each alternative.
- This environmental review is now well underway, and we'll continue to adjust our design based on community feedback, engineering feasibility, and collaboration with local tribes, agencies or jurisdictions. We'll publish the results in a Draft EIS in 2021, and they'll be available for public comment. Our Final EIS will respond to those comments in 2022.
- Need more information now? Visit our project website for a history of the project, additional background information and resources.

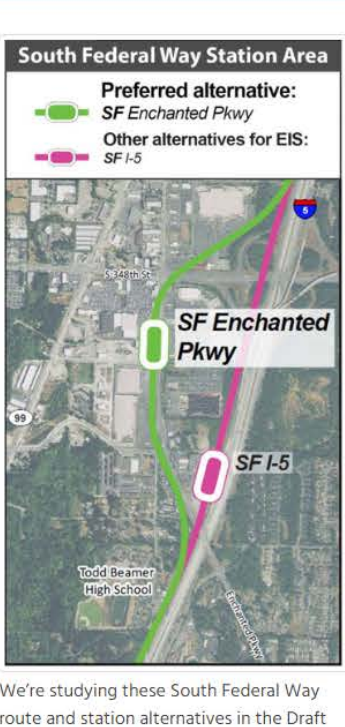
South Federal Way

Route and station alternatives

The Board's preferred route in South Federal Way is the **SF Enchanted Parkway alternative** (previously known as SF 2 West). From the Federal Way Transit Center, this preferred route generally follows I-5 South until turning west toward Enchanted Parkway near South 344th Street. A station would be located at Enchanted Parkway and South 352nd Street.

We're also evaluating another route and station option, called the **SF I-5 alternative** (previously known as SF 8/9), which would continue running along the Interstate.

Click + to check out in-progress station designs below.



South Federal Way Station Area
Preferred alternative:
SF Enchanted Pkwy
Other alternatives for EIS:
SF I-5
SF Enchanted Pkwy
SF I-5
Todd Beamer High School

We're studying these South Federal Way route and station alternatives in the Draft EIS. To view the entire project area, click on the image.

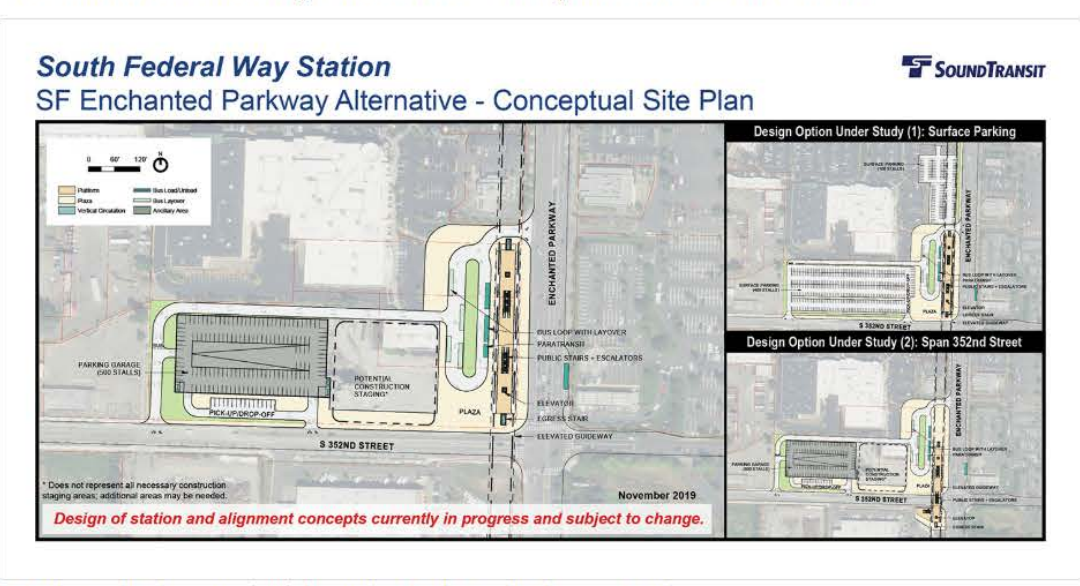
What could Link look like in South Federal Way? -

Designs for both South Federal Way Station alternatives include parking, bus connections, passenger pick-up and drop-off areas, and pedestrian and biking access improvements.

Key design updates include:

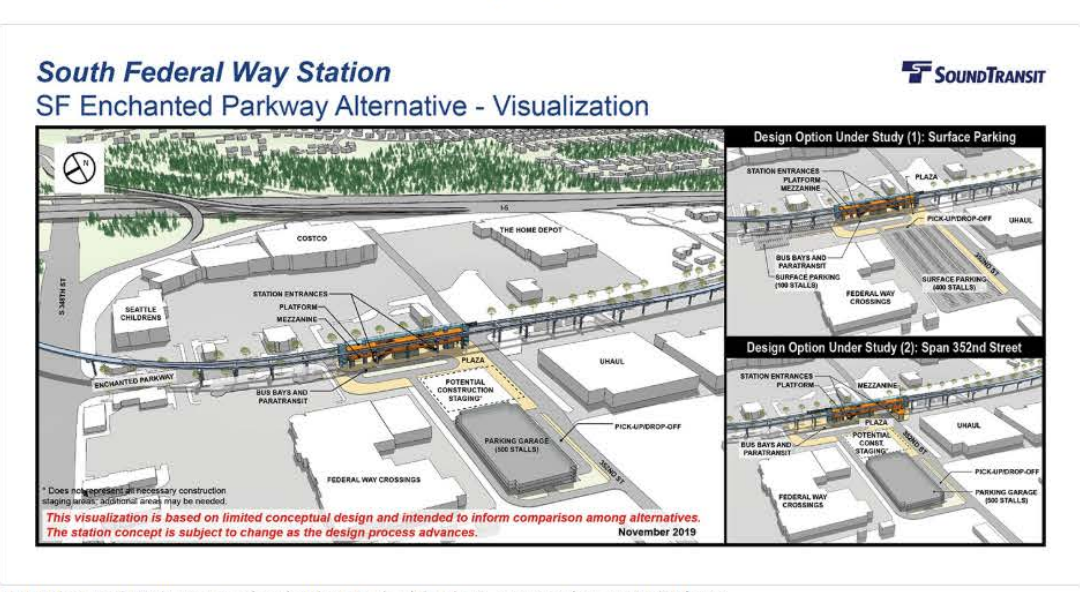
- **Route design option:** One route design option shifts the track westward through the Belmor Park neighborhood to provide gentler curves and faster train speeds into and out of the Federal Way Transit Center station.
- **SF Enchanted Parkway station alternative concept and design options:** This station would be located at South 352nd Street and Enchanted Parkway and include 500 parking stalls. The primary design places the station north of 352nd with a parking garage, but we're also exploring two other design options. The first would shift the station south to span South 352nd Street and provide rider access from both sides of the street. The second option arranges the 500 parking stalls in a surface layout, offering greater long-term adaptability and potential for future re-use. (Compared to a parking garage, a surface lot can be more easily redeveloped to suit evolving travel or development patterns.)
- **SF I-5 station alternative concept and design options:** This station would be located along I-5 south of South 356th Street and would also include 500 parking stalls. The primary design assumes a parking garage. The second option arranges the 500 parking stalls in a surface layout, offering greater long-term adaptability and potential for future re-use. (Compared to a parking garage, a surface lot can be more easily redeveloped to suit evolving travel or development patterns.)

SF Enchanted Parkway alternative – site plan and visualization



South Federal Way Station
SF Enchanted Parkway Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study (1): Surface Parking
Design Option Under Study (2): Span 352nd Street
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

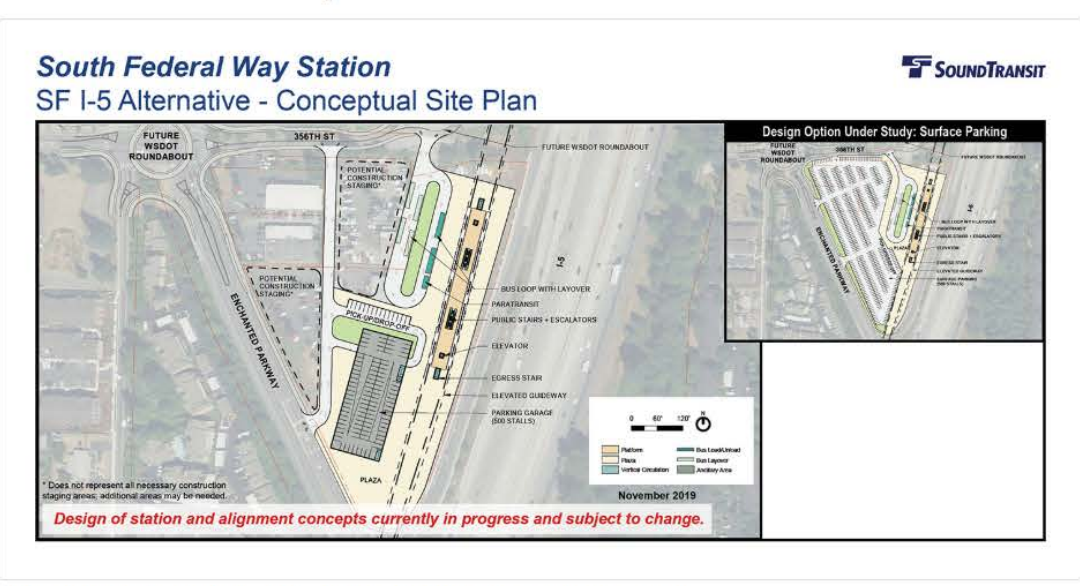
SF Enchanted Parkway station is located on Enchanted Parkway at South 352nd Street and incorporates a bus facility and 500 parking spaces.



South Federal Way Station
SF Enchanted Parkway Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study (1): Surface Parking
Design Option Under Study (2): Span 352nd Street
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

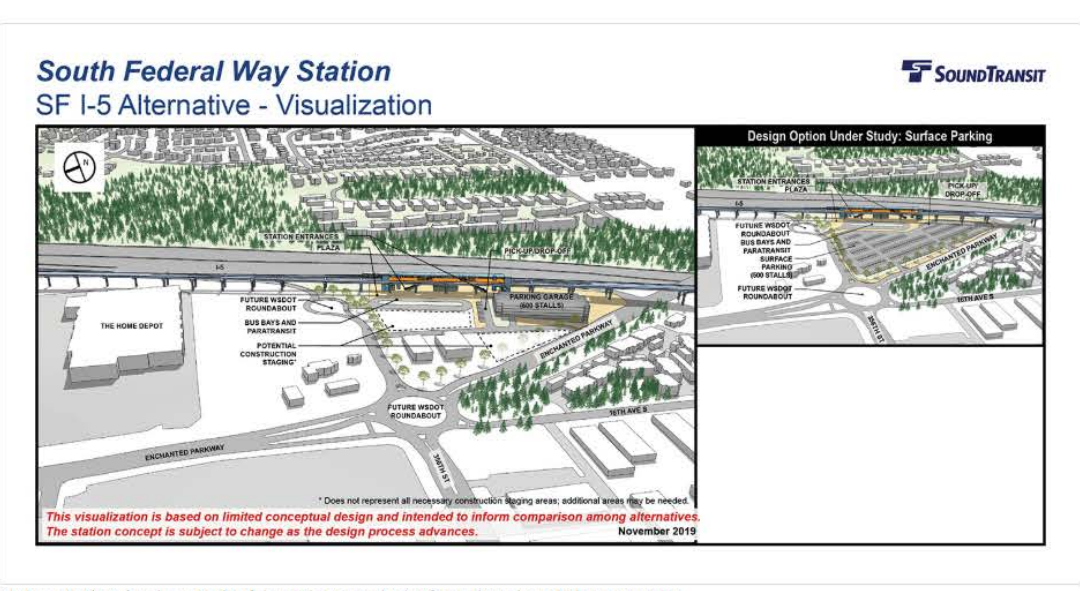
SF Enchanted Parkway station is elevated with plaza, mezzanine and platform levels.

SF I-5 alternative – site plan and visualization



South Federal Way Station
SF I-5 Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Surface Parking
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

SF I-5 station is located east of Enchanted Parkway at I-5 and South 356th Street and incorporates a bus facility and 500 parking spaces.



South Federal Way Station
SF I-5 Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Surface Parking
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

SF I-5 station is elevated with a plaza and platform level and the concept allows for a non-motorized path south along the guideway to Enchanted Parkway.

What else is going on in Federal Way? -

- Some existing power lines are too low to accommodate the light rail route in this area. We're coordinating with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the City of Federal Way to evaluate their height and any movement required.
- We're also conducting environmental review on the Operations and Maintenance Facility South, which will store and service new trains and bring more than 300 living-wage jobs to the area. Earlier this year, the Board selected three sites for further study— two in Federal Way and one in Kent. Learn more about the potential sites and the project.
- Our Federal Way Link Extension will expand regional light rail from Angle Lake Station to the Federal Way Transit Center in 2024, and outreach is underway to explore station names and preview construction. We'll break ground in 2020.
- The City of Federal Way is advancing the City Center Access Project, which proposes a modified interchange to I-5 at S 324th St. They're working to ease traffic congestion in the area around S 320th St. between SR 99/Pacific Highway and Military Road S.
- The City of Federal Way is also thinking ahead about the Future of the South Federal Way area and currently seeking feedback. Visit their site to learn more about Framing City South.

Come talk to us! -

Talk to the project team at our drop-in sessions:

Federal Way Library
Nov. 16, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
34200 1st Way S
Federal Way, WA 98003
Add to Calendar

Eastside Community Center
November 16, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
1721 E 56th St
Tacoma, WA 98404
Add to Calendar

Starbucks
Nov. 20, 8 – 10 a.m.
900 E Meridian Ave. E, Suite 12
Milton, WA 98354
Add to Calendar

Evergreen State College Tacoma Campus
November 20, 5 – 7 p.m.
1210 6th Ave
Tacoma, WA 98405
Add to Calendar

Poodle Dog Restaurant
November 21, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
1522 54th Ave E
Fife, WA 98424
Add to Calendar

UW Tacoma Campus
December 3, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
1900 Commerce St
Tacoma, WA 98402
Add to Calendar

Fife Pierce County Library
December 3, 4 – 6 p.m.
6622 20th St E
Fife, WA 98424
Add to Calendar

Tacoma Sounder Station
December 4, 6 – 8 a.m.
424 E 25th St
Tacoma, WA 98421
Add to Calendar

Federal Way Community Center
Dec. 4, 5 – 7 p.m.
876 S 333rd St
Federal Way, WA 98003
Add to Calendar

The project team *will also* be available at Federal Way Link Extension Open Houses

Highline College
November 13, 6 – 8 p.m.
2400 S 240th St
Des Moines, WA 98198
Add to Calendar

Federal Way Performing Arts Center
Nov. 20, 6 – 8 p.m.
31510 Pete von Reichbauer Way S
Federal Way, WA 98003
Add to Calendar

Fife

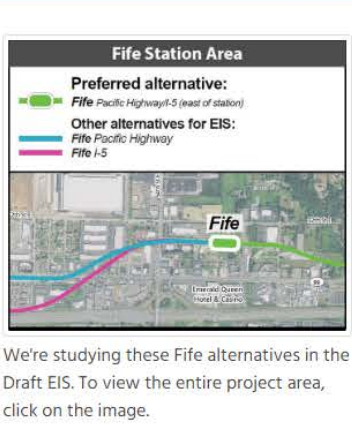
Route and station alternatives

The Sound Transit Board identified one preferred alternative location for Fife station, in the community's planned City Center, between 12th and 15th streets east, just west of 59th Avenue East (In previous outreach, this preferred station option was known as Fife 3B.)

The preferred alternative route between South Federal Way and Fife is along I-5 to the Fife curve near 70th Avenue East, where it begins to gradually shift north to connect to the station.

There is no preferred alternative route west of Fife station to the Puyallup River. We're considering two alternatives in the environmental review process: one along I-5, and another along SR 99/Pacific Highway. Both potential routes cross the Puyallup River north of I-5.

Click + check out in-progress station designs below



Fife Station Area
Preferred alternative:
Fife Pacific Highway/I-5 (east of station)
Other alternatives for EIS:
Fife Pacific Highway
Fife I-5
Fife

We're studying these Fife alternatives in the Draft EIS. To view the entire project area, click on the image.

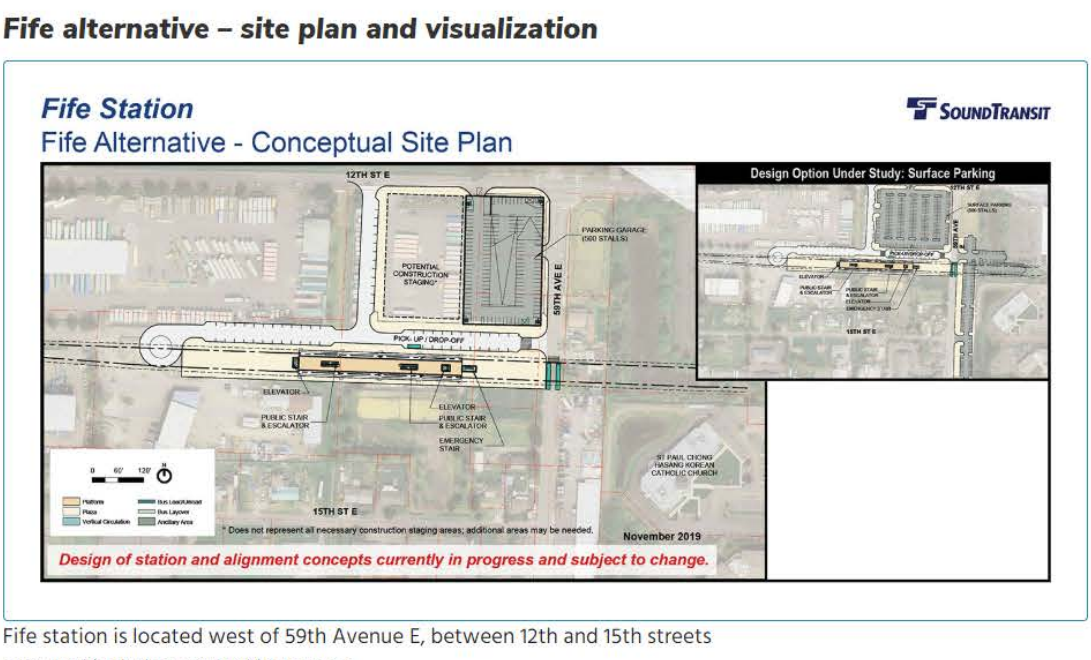
What could Link look like in Fife? -

Fife station designs include parking, bus connections, passenger pick-up and drop-off areas, and pedestrian and biking access improvements. Other design work focuses on the geographic placement of route alternatives.

Key design updates include:

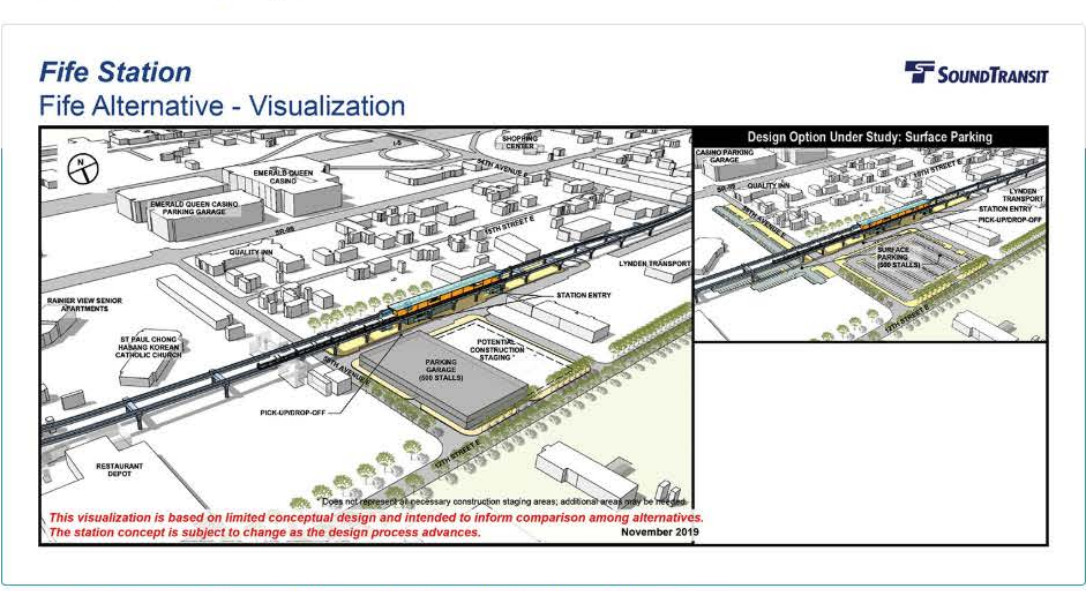
- **Route design at 54th Avenue East:** Leaving the station and heading toward Tacoma, both options continue in an east-west route to the west of 54th Avenue East, before curving to the south to either I-5 or Pacific Highway.
- **Fife Station design concept and parking options:** The station is located just west of 59th Avenue East and includes 500 parking stalls. The primary design assumes a parking garage. Another option arranges the 500 parking stalls in a surface layout, offering greater long-term adaptability and potential for future re-use. (Compared to a parking garage, a surface lot can be more easily redeveloped to suit evolving travel or development patterns.)

Fife alternative – site plan and visualization



Fife Station
Fife Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Surface Parking
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

Fife station is located west of 59th Avenue E, between 12th and 15th streets east, and includes 500 parking spaces.



Fife Station
Fife Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Surface Parking
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

Fife station includes a plaza and platform level and is situated to support the City of Fife's future City Center plans.

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Eastside Community Center
November 16, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
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Federal Way Community Center
Dec. 4, 5 – 7 p.m.
876 S 333rd St
Federal Way, WA 98003
Add to Calendar

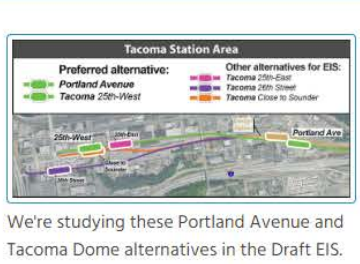
Tacoma

The *Tacoma* segment of *TDLE* includes two stations: *Portland Avenue* and *Tacoma Dome*

Two stations will serve Tacoma riders. From Port of Tacoma Road, the Board's preferred alternative crosses the Puyallup River near I-5 and curves north to the **Portland Avenue** station, along East 26th Street. (In previous outreach, this station was referred to as ET3).

Between the Portland Avenue station and the Tacoma Dome, there are **four route alternatives**, mainly along East 25th Street and E 26th Street (previously known as TD 2, TD 3 and TD 4 East In-Street, respectively). In the Tacoma Dome area, we're studying four station locations, including a new station option called "**Close to Sounder**."

Click + check out in-progress station designs at Portland Avenue and the Tacoma Dome below:



Tacoma Station Area
Preferred alternative:
Portland Avenue
Tacoma 25th-West
Other alternatives for EIS:
Tacoma 25th-East
Tacoma 26th Street
Tacoma Close to Sounder

We're studying these Portland Avenue and Tacoma Dome alternatives in the Draft EIS. To view the entire project area, click on the image.

What could Link look like at Portland Avenue? -

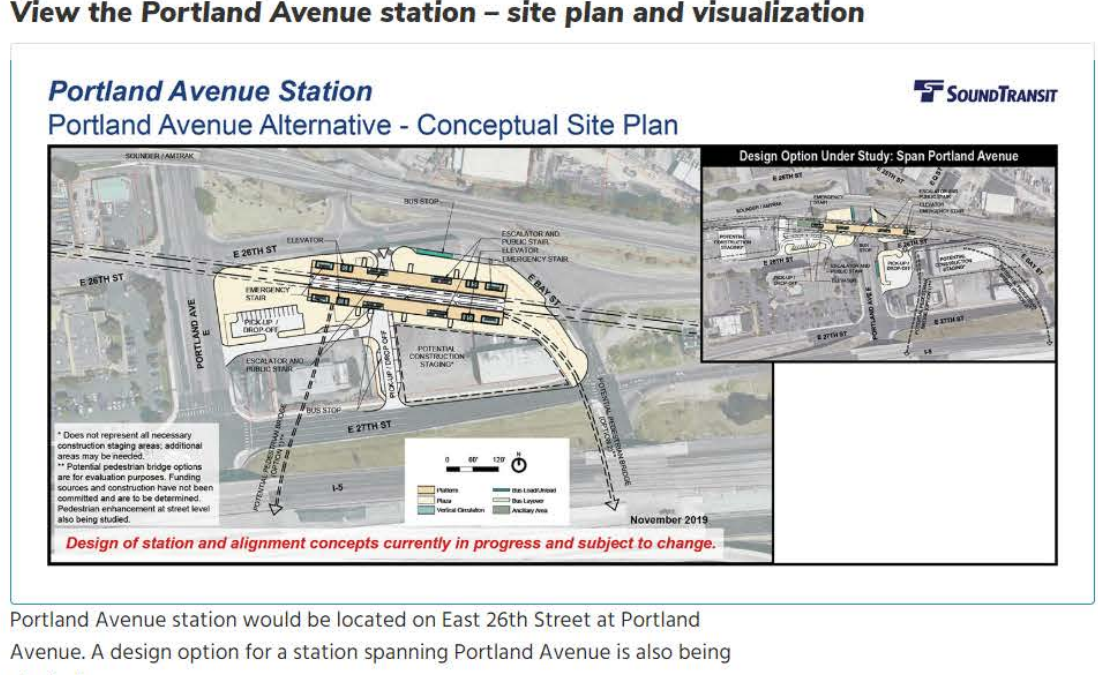
The preferred alternative for the Portland Avenue station is located along East 26th Street, between East Bay Street and Portland Avenue East. (In previous outreach, this station option was called ET3 in the East Tacoma Station Area.) It will include bus connections, passenger pick-up and drop-off areas, and pedestrian and bicycle connections.

The environmental review process will analyze one route east of Portland Avenue Station (connecting to Fife) and four possible routes west of the station (connecting to Tacoma Dome Station).

Key design updates and ongoing considerations include:

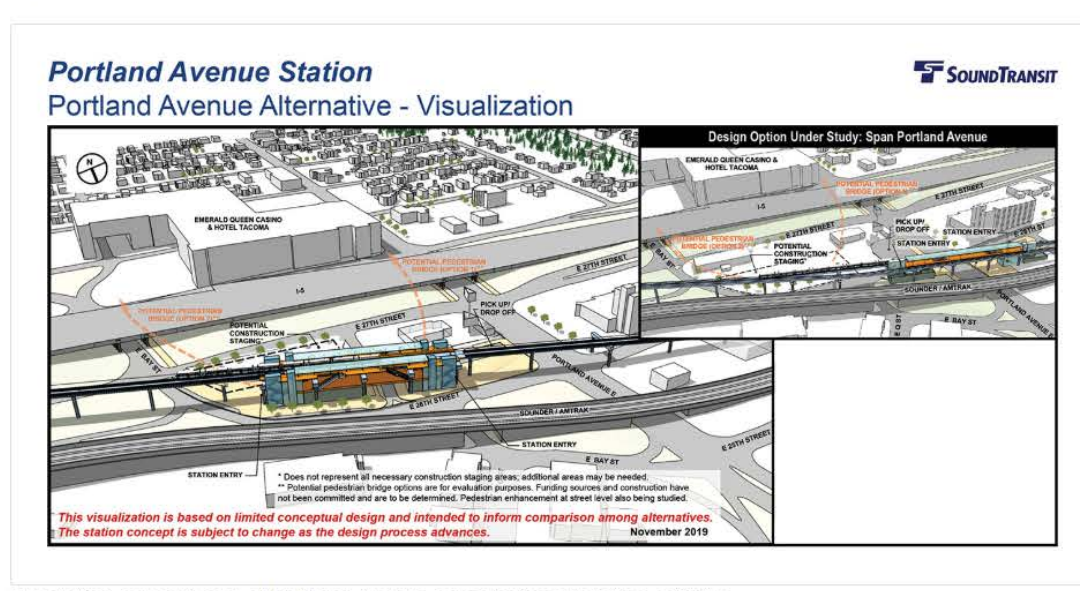
- **Station concept and design options:** The primary location for the Portland Avenue station is east of Portland Avenue. We're also considering a design option with the station shifted west, so that the station could span Portland Avenue and provide riders direct access from both sides of the street.
- **Accessing the station near I-5:** Pedestrian connections are a key focus for this station. Our designs and environmental review will consider how to improve connectivity between the station and Tacoma's Eastside neighborhood, south of I-5, including study of potential pedestrian enhancements at street level and potential pedestrian bridge over I-5. Potential pedestrian bridge options are for evaluation purposes. Funding sources and construction have not been committed and are to be determined.

View the Portland Avenue station – site plan and visualization



Portland Avenue Station
Portland Avenue Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Span Portland Avenue
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

Portland Avenue station would be located on East 26th Street at Portland Avenue. A design option for a station spanning Portland Avenue is also being studied.



Portland Avenue Station
Portland Avenue Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Span Portland Avenue
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

The station concept east of Portland Avenue consolidates all station activity in one area, while the design option spanning Portland Avenue has passenger entries on both sides of the street.

What could Link look like at the Tacoma Dome? -

The Sound Transit Board identified **TD 25th West** as their preferred station alternative. This would be an elevated station above East 25th Street, between East D Street and East G Street.

In the environmental review process, we'll also study the **TD 25th East alternative**, located above East 25th Street between East G Street and McKinley Avenue East. We're also analyzing the **TD 26th alternative**, located above East 26th Street at East D Street. (In previous outreach, these station options were identified as TD 2, TD 3, and TD 4 East In-Street, respectively.)

The Sound Transit Board also directed agency staff to examine "options for the alignment and station close to the Sounder corridor" in the Tacoma Dome station area. This is now our fourth alternative being analyzed, called **TD Close to Sounder**. It would be located on the Freighthouse Square block, between the Sounder tracks and East 25th Street.

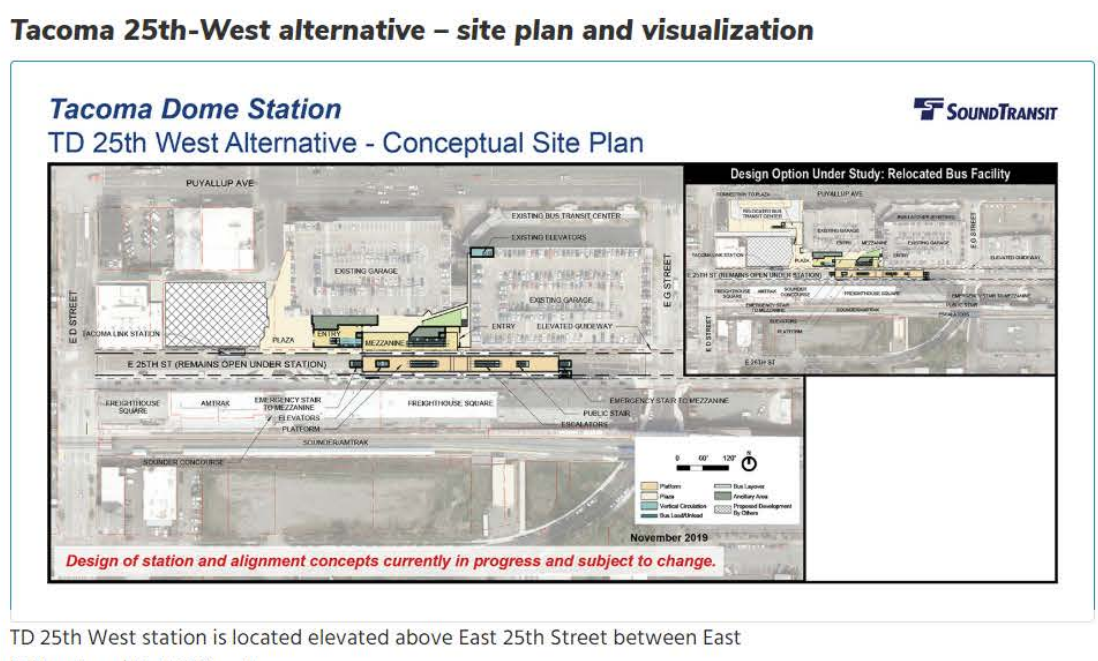
The Tacoma Dome station is one of the largest transit hubs in the Sound Transit district. Creating opportunities for easy transfer between Sounder, Tacoma Link, buses, Amtrak and other modes is important to our design process there.

All station designs will include a passenger pick-up and drop-off area and pedestrian and biking access improvements.

Key design updates include:

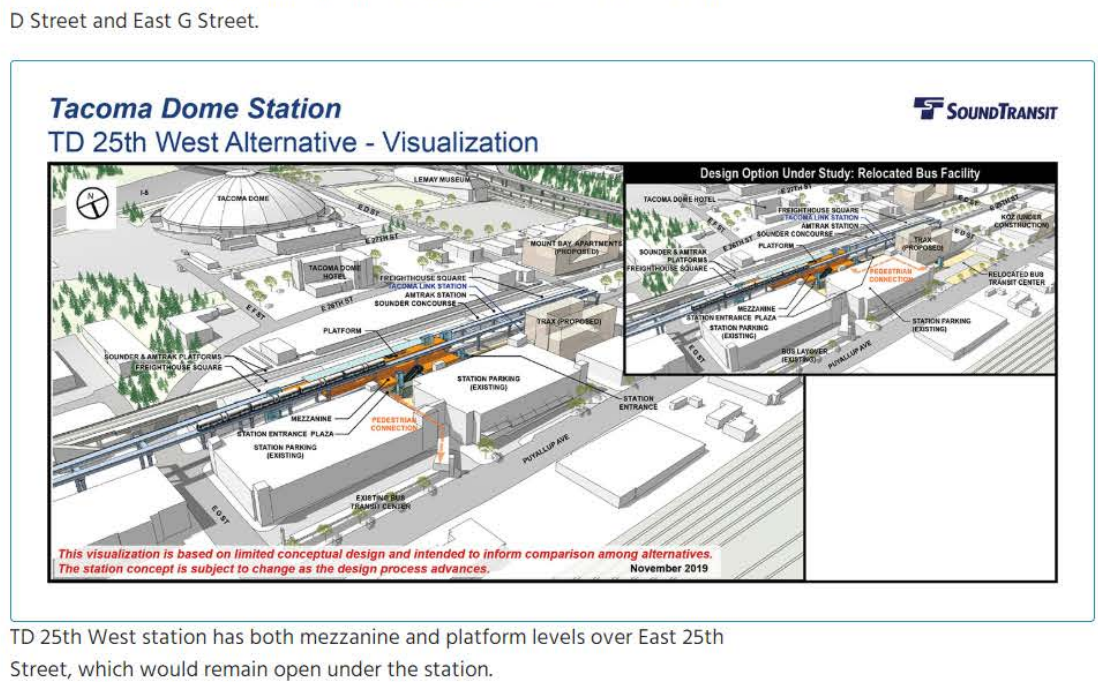
- **The TD Close to Sounder alternative:** This new alternative responds to public feedback and Sound Transit Board direction. It would situate an elevated station over much of the existing Freighthouse Square (FHS) building. The concept is still under development with many details yet to be worked out.
  The current "Close to Sounder" station concept would demolish a portion of Freighthouse Square east of the Sounder concourse. In response to input expressed by the community and City Council, the design concept may support a building frontage on the street if possible based on design constraints, similar to the new Tacoma Amtrak Station. In addition, Sound Transit is exploring whether non-transit uses (such as dining and retail) could be allowed under the new station and guideway to integrate with the existing neighborhood. West of the new station, the design aims to retain the Sounder concourse, Amtrak station and western end of Freighthouse Square.
- **Bus transit facility integration for TD 25th West:** The TD 25th West alternative includes a design option that explores relocating the current bus transit facility on Puyallup Avenue to the west side of the Pierce Transit parking garages.
- **Route and station location between Portland Avenue and TD 26th:** The TD 26th alternative is located along East 26th Street with the station platform spanning East D Street. This location is farther west compared to the previous design. The possible route between Portland Avenue and TD 26th station has shifted to be closer to the Sounder tracks.
- **End of route:** Design refinement is underway for the "tail tracks" included with all Tacoma Dome station alternatives. Tail tracks are located at the end of a rail line for train storage and maintaining operations and reliability, especially during Tacoma Dome event-rider surges.

Tacoma 25th-West alternative – site plan and visualization



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 25th West Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Relocated Bus Facility
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

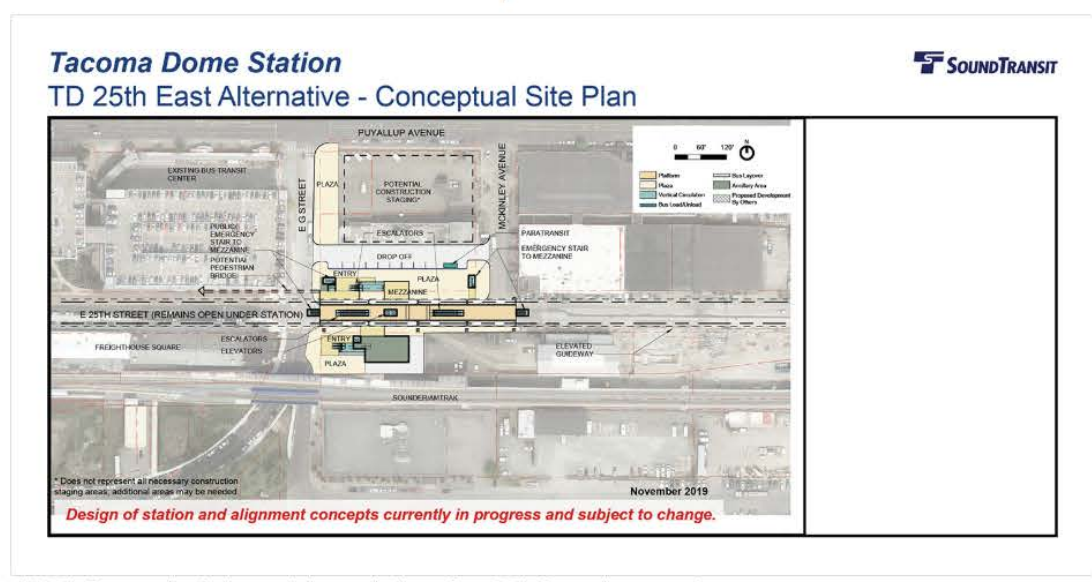
TD 25th West station is located elevated above East 25th Street between East D Street and East G Street.



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 25th West Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design Option Under Study: Relocated Bus Facility
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

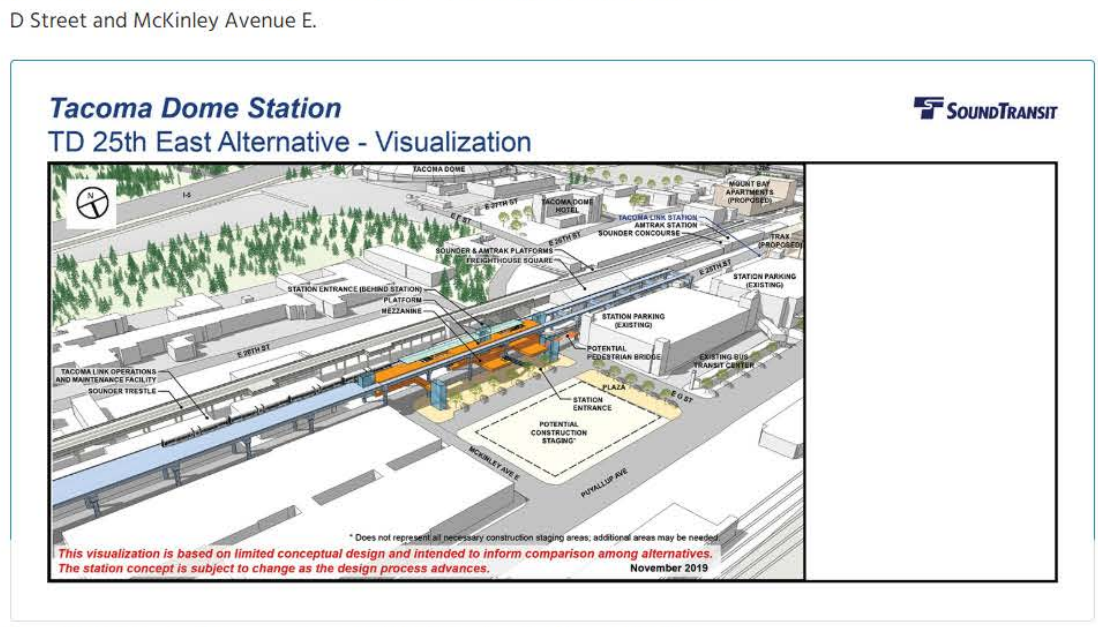
TD 25th West station has both mezzanine and platform levels over East 25th Street, which would remain open under the station.

Tacoma 25th-East alternative – site plan and visualization



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 25th East Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

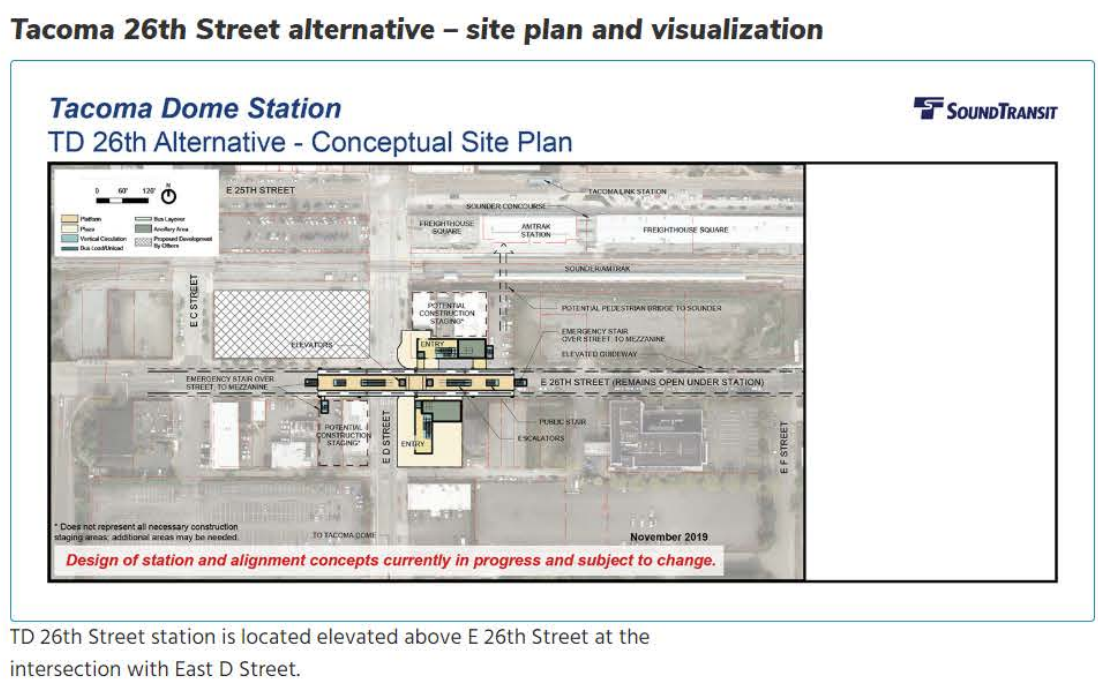
TD 25th East station is located elevated above East 25th Street between East D Street and McKinley Avenue E.



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 25th East Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

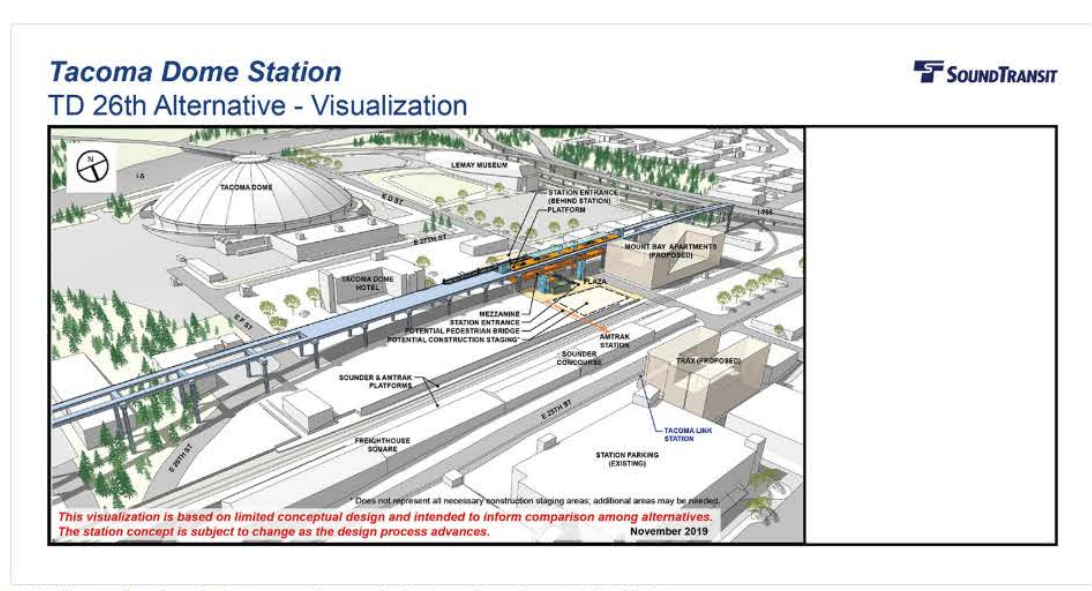
TD 25th East has both mezzanine and platform levels over East 25th Street, which would remain open under the station.

Tacoma 26th Street alternative – site plan and visualization



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 26th Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
November 2019
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.

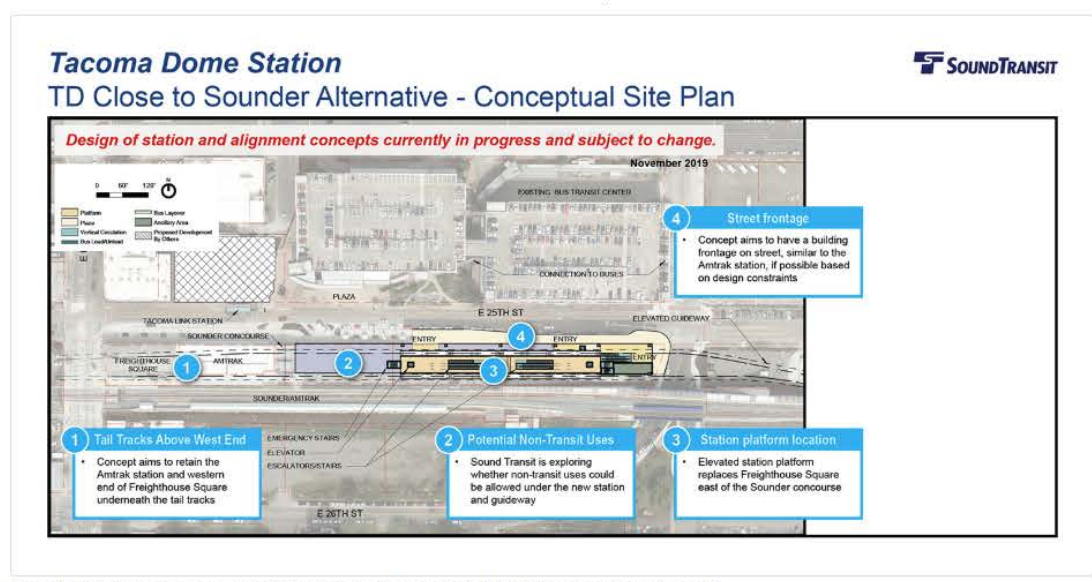
TD 26th Street station is located elevated above E 26th Street at the intersection with East D Street.



Tacoma Dome Station
TD 26th Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019

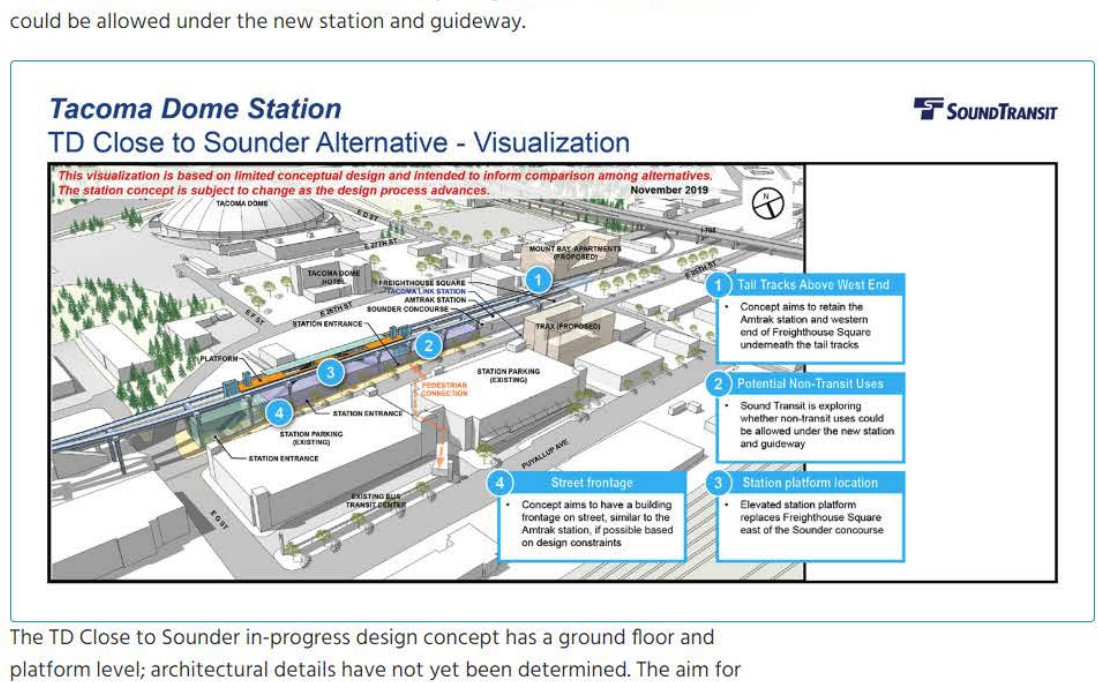
TD 26th station has both mezzanine and platform levels over E 26th Street, which would remain open under the station.

Tacoma Close to Sounder alternative – site plan and visualization



Tacoma Dome Station
TD Close to Sounder Alternative - Conceptual Site Plan
SOUNDTRANSIT
Design of station and alignment concepts currently in progress and subject to change.
November 2019
1 Tail Tracks Above West End
2 Potential Non-Transit Uses
3 Station platform location
4 Street frontage

The TD Close to Sounder station concept replaces Freighthouse Square east of the Sounder concourse. Sound Transit is exploring whether non-transit uses could be allowed under the new station and guideway.



Tacoma Dome Station
TD Close to Sounder Alternative - Visualization
SOUNDTRANSIT
This visualization is based on limited conceptual design and intended to inform comparison among alternatives.
The station concept is subject to change as the design process advances.
November 2019
1 Tail Tracks Above West End
2 Potential Non-Transit Uses
3 Station platform location
4 Street frontage

The TD Close to Sounder in-progress design concept has a ground floor and platform level; architectural details have not yet been determined. The aim for this concept is to retain the existing Sounder concourse, Amtrak station, and the west end of Freighthouse Square.

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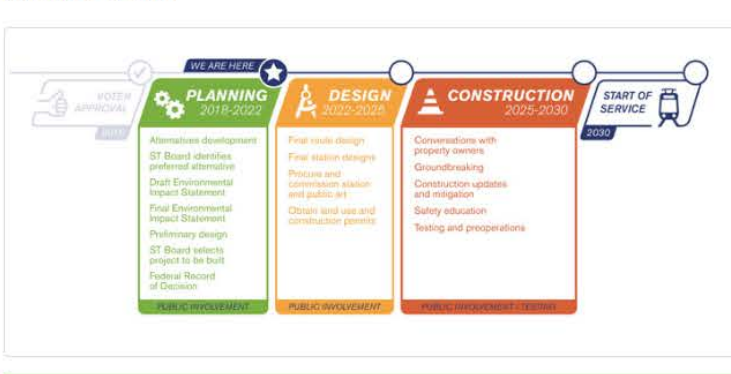
Federal Way, WA 98003
Add to Calendar

Next steps and resources

Our timeline

The preferred alternative for routes and stations, along with other alternatives advanced by the Sound Transit Board, will be studied in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), expected to be issued in 2021. After collecting and considering public input on the Draft EIS, the Sound Transit Board will confirm or modify the preferred alternative for evaluation in a Final EIS. The Final EIS will also respond to comments on the Draft EIS and is scheduled to be published in 2022. After the Final EIS is issued the Board will select the project to be built.



VOTER APPROVAL
2016
WE ARE HERE
PLANNING
2018-2022
DESIGN
2022-2025
CONSTRUCTION
2025-2030
START OF SERVICE
2030
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Equity and inclusion

Sound Transit is committed to inclusively engaging those who live and work along the project corridor, including historically-underrepresented communities. Throughout planning and environmental review, we are working closely with these communities to identify and understand potential benefits and impacts and to provide opportunities for meaningful engagement.

Sign up for the project mailing list

Stay updated with project news and opportunities to get involved.

Email Address

Email

Subscribe now

What can *I* expect as a project neighbor?

If you are a resident, business or property owner near a TDLE route or station alternative, we encourage you to sign up for project email updates. The EIS will evaluate property impacts of potential sites in detail following further design work. An official decision by the Sound Transit Board about which route and stations to build for TDLE will occur following the issue of the Final EIS in 2022.

Staying engaged

Thoughts or questions?

These alternatives will be studied in the Environmental Impact Statement. Do you have any thoughts or questions about these alternatives at this time? Do you understand or have suggestions for our public engagement moving forward? Select a station/or segment area and offer your comment. *

○ South Federal Way
○ Fife
○ Tacoma - Portland Avenue station
○ Tacoma - Tacoma Dome station
○ Entire project area

Comments *

Do you have suggestions for our public engagement moving forward?

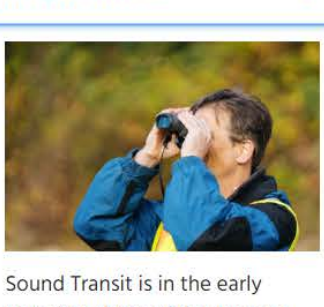
Submit

Ways to stay engaged

CONTACT US
GO ONLINE
GET INVOLVED

- Email us at tdlink@soundtransit.org
- Call us at 206-398-5453
- Request a briefing for your community

Fieldwork in your neighborhood -



Sound Transit is in the early planning phase of the Tacoma Dome Link Extension project. As part of this phase, Sound Transit is coordinating with property owners and local jurisdictions throughout the corridor to collect and analyze information necessary to plan and design potential light rail alignments to be studied in the environmental review process. If you'd like to learn more about the different types of fieldwork activities we may conduct in your neighborhood, check out our fact sheet.

Learn about connecting projects -

- Operations and Maintenance Facility South has narrowed down to three potential sites. Learn more about the project.
- Federal Way Link Extension outreach in November is also underway.
- Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension is under construction and will open in 2022.
- Sounder South Capacity Expansion is creating a strategic plan to identify improvements to serve more riders. Learn more about the project.

Other resources -

- Project website documents library
- Real estate materials
- Scoping period summary report
- What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

Contact
Sound Transit Community Outreach
Phone: 206-398-5453
Email: tdlink@soundtransit.org
Web: soundtransit.org/tdlink

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